



US011192246B2

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Burgess et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 11,192,246 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 7, 2021**

(54) **TWO-AXIS ROTATABLE MECHANICAL EYEBALL**

(71) Applicant: **Facebook Technologies, LLC**, Menlo Park, CA (US)

(72) Inventors: **Kirk Erik Burgess**, Newark, CA (US); **Antonio Yamil Layon Halun**, Los Altos, CA (US); **Sebastian Sztuk**, Menlo Park, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Facebook Technologies, LLC**, Menlo Park, CA (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 283 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **16/437,570**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 11, 2019**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2020/0391382 A1 Dec. 17, 2020

(51) **Int. Cl.**

**B25J 13/08** (2006.01)

**B25J 9/16** (2006.01)

**H04N 5/225** (2006.01)

**G06F 3/01** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ..... **B25J 9/1664** (2013.01); **B25J 13/08** (2013.01); **G06F 3/013** (2013.01); **H04N 5/2257** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC ..... **B25J 9/1664**; **B25J 13/08**; **B25J 11/0015**; **G06F 3/013**; **G06F 1/163**

USPC ..... **700/245**, **259**; **446/341**, **342**; **434/262**, **434/271**

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,005,545 A \* 2/1977 Ptaszek ..... A63H 3/40 446/341  
9,358,475 B2 \* 6/2016 Michalowski ..... A63H 15/06  
2008/0229859 A1 \* 9/2008 Hsiao ..... A63H 3/40 74/479.01  
2011/0066239 A1 3/2011 Smoot et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

WO WO 2017/082979 A1 5/2017

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

PCT International Search Report and Written Opinion, PCT Application No. PCT/US2020/034757, dated Aug. 25, 2020, 11 pages.

\* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Dalena Tran

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Fenwick & West LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A mechanical eyeball includes an outer housing shaped as an ocular surface configured to rotate about a first rotational axis and a second rotational axis that intersect at a fixed center point. The outer housing is coupled to a mechanical assembly, and the mechanical assembly is contained within a volume associated with the mechanical eyeball. The mechanical assembly can include a stationary gear train and rotatable components that rotate relative to the gear train. The rotatable components are configured to cause rotation of the outer housing about one or more rotational axes. The volume may be substantially the same volume of a human eye. The mechanical assembly is coupled to one or more drivers configured to actuate rotation of the outer housing.

**20 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets**

100b

